

TESTING

TEST WINDOWS

Two test windows are scheduled during the PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon year (Round 1/Scrimmage in November, and Round 2/District/Regional in January). These test windows are modeled after those suggested by USAD. These test windows are for test security purposes. Local school districts are strongly encouraged to plan local testing within these prescribed test windows. Each test window is sufficiently long to provide adequate time for completing all testing. The State Director must approve local testing done outside the test window at least one month prior to the scheduled test window.

What test(s) should we participate in?

PRACTICE TESTS

The Curriculum Package from USAD contains a Practice Test Booklet and MP3 music files. Additional Practice Test options are available to purchase. Visit the USAD website at www.usad.org for ordering information. Practice tests may be administered by the team coach.

SCRIMMAGE AND COMPETITION TESTS

Official tests for local and district levels competitions (Round1/Scrimmage and Round 2/District/Regional) come from the PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon and may not be administered by the team coach. Indicating your test dates (www.pageinc.org/gad) is part of your district's season registration process. More information explaining the process of submitting your test dates, planning for Test Security, who should do the testing, and USAD Guidelines regarding the administration of USAD tests, can be found in the District-Level Competition tabbed section.

All official tests must be secure and cannot be used for practice or study by the team or team coach(es). They must be destroyed within 24 hours after competition use. Tests may be requested by a coach, but must be sent to the school principal or a coordinator/administrator designated to handle the competition. **They are NEVER to be in the hands of the team coach or decathletes.**

A sample of the Answer Form used at state competition for the subject area tests is at the end of this tabbed section.

Chewing gum is not permitted in the testing rooms.

Each test is thirty minutes long.

PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon

GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING PAGE GAD TESTS at DISTRICT-LEVEL COMPETITION

The following guidelines are provided to district-level coordinators responsible for on-paper testing at local school or district-level events. If you are administering the online tests, the coach may not proctor.

1. Each participating school district, individual school or private school must have an Academic Decathlon Coordinator who is in charge of administering the Academic Decathlon tests. **Academic Decathlon team coach(es) is/are not permitted to administer or see any of the AD tests.**
2. The Academic Decathlon Coordinator is responsible for destroying the decathlon tests within 24 hours after the completion of the tests. Destroying the tests can be in the form of shredding, burning, or recycling as long as recycling ensures that no one has access to the tests.
3. Tests are not to be used for coaching purposes, for studying, or for preparation for competition.
4. There are seven objective tests. One copy of each is provided to the district-level coordinator. The coordinator is responsible for duplicating enough tests for all team members participating in the decathlon event.
5. Each test should be given separately, one test at a time, in the same format in which they are given at state competition. It is suggested that district competition follow state competition order for the tests – art, music, economics, mathematics, social science, science, and literature.
6. There are 50 questions per test with the exception of mathematics which has 35 questions.
7. Calculators are no longer permitted to be used for USAD tests. Georgia follows the national policy.
8. Each test period is 30 minutes long.
9. Students can respond on the official USAD Scantron or Apperson answer form, any type of 50-item test response form regularly used by high schools for testing purposes, or by paper and pencil. It is recommended that a form be selected that facilitates easy and rapid scoring in order to provide quick feedback to the team members and coaches regarding student scores on the various tests.
10. **REMINDER: Do not return tests to students or coaches.**

District-level coordinators should also consult the tabbed section, “Running a District-level Program” that is a part of the *PAGE GAD Coaches’ Manual*. This section of the manual provides more detail about how to organize a district-level event.

2026-2027 Calculator Policy

For the 2026–2027 academic year, calculators are not permitted on any United States Academic Decathlon® tests or events, including the Mathematics test and Super Quiz™. This policy applies at all levels of Academic Decathlon competition, including local, regional, state, and national competitions.

Purpose and Background

USAD has adopted a no-calculator standard to provide a simpler, more consistent testing environment across competitions and to ensure that all decathletes compete under the same conditions.

The previous calculator policy required competition officials to verify approved calculator models, monitor compliance with calculator restrictions, address calculator memory and functionality, and inspect calculators before testing. Eliminating calculator use removes these administrative challenges as well as potential advantages or disadvantages associated with calculator availability, features, and capabilities.

Mathematics Test

All Mathematics test questions will be developed so that a calculator is not required. Questions will emphasize mathematical reasoning, problem-solving, estimation, logical thinking, and appropriate written computation.

Competition Preparation and Administration

Coaches and students should prepare for all competitions assuming no calculator access.

State Directors and competition organizers should ensure that competition instructions, coach communications, proctor materials, and other relevant competition documents reflect the no-calculator policy before competition.

The previous USAD Calculator Policy identifying approved and prohibited calculator models is no longer applicable for the 2026–2027 academic year.

USA U.S. ACADEMIC DECATHLON ANSWER SHEET

Student's Name	Date
Subject	Room Number

Marking Instructions

USE NO. 2 PENCIL ONLY

• Example (A) (B) (C) (D) (E)

- Make **Dark and Complete** Marks
- **Erase Completely** to Change
- Make No Stray Marks

Student ID Number

0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9

Test ID

0	0	0
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9

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